

PORT TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 50
Jefferson County, Washington
September 1, 1990 Through August 31, 1992

Schedule Of Findings

1. The District Should Comply With Bid Law Requirements

In July 1992, the district contracted to remodel rooms in the former elementary school for use as administration offices. The total cost of the completed project was \$144,572. The district did not advertise for bids to perform this project.

RCW 28A.335.190 states in part:

(1) When, in the opinion of the board of directors of any school district, the cost of any furniture, supplies, equipment, building, improvements, or repairs, or other work or purchases, except books, will equal or exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars, complete plans and specifications for such work or purchases shall be prepared and notice by publication given in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the district, once each week for two consecutive weeks, of the intention to receive bids therefor and that specifications and other information may be examined at the office of the board or any other officially designated location . . .

(3) Every building, improvement, repair or other public works project, the cost of which is estimated to be in excess of seventy-five hundred dollars, shall be on a competitive bid process. (Emphasis ours.)

District officials indicated that proper consideration was not given to the bid law requirements due to the necessity of completing the project within a short period of time.

Without soliciting competitive bids, the district cannot be assured that the project was completed at the lowest possible cost.

We recommend the district follow proper competitive bid procedures to ensure compliance with the requirements of RCW 28A.335.190.